



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 5372

LCO No. 1729



Referred to Committee on PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS

Introduced by:
(PRI)

***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS
COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY
COUNCIL.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17a-667 of the 2014 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

4 (a) There is established a Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy
5 Council which shall be within the Office of Policy and Management for
6 administrative purposes only.

7 (b) The council shall consist of the following members: (1) The
8 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
9 designee; (2) the Commissioners of Children and Families, Consumer
10 Protection, Correction, Education, Higher Education, Mental Health
11 and Addiction Services, Motor Vehicles, Public Health, Emergency
12 Services and Public Protection, Social Services and Transportation and

13 the Insurance Commissioner, or their designees; (3) the Chief Court
14 Administrator, or the Chief Court Administrator's designee; (4) the
15 chairperson of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, or the chairperson's
16 designee; (5) the Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's
17 designee; (6) the Chief Public Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's
18 designee; and (7) the cochairpersons and ranking members of the joint
19 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
20 matters relating to public health, criminal justice and appropriations,
21 or their designees. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
22 Services and the Commissioner of Children and Families shall be
23 cochairpersons of the council. The Office of Policy and Management
24 shall, within available appropriations, provide staff for the council.

25 (c) The council shall: [review] (1) Review policies and practices of
26 state agencies and the Judicial Department concerning substance abuse
27 treatment programs, substance abuse prevention services, the referral
28 of persons to such programs and services, and criminal justice
29 sanctions and programs; [and shall] (2) develop and coordinate a state-
30 wide, interagency, integrated plan for such programs and services and
31 criminal sanctions; (3) develop and work to advance comprehensive
32 strategies to improve access to substance abuse treatment for all
33 persons living in the state; and (4) assess whether professional
34 education programs for physicians, nurses and physician assistants in
35 the state include (A) (i) sufficient training on behavioral health
36 screening methods, and (ii) administering a brief intervention for
37 substance abuse and referring patients for substance abuse treatment,
38 and (B) encourage and provide assistance to those organizations
39 offering such programs that do not provide such training so that they
40 are able to do so.

41 (d) In addition to the duties described in subsection (c) of this
42 section, the council shall assess the various substance abuse treatment
43 referral service web sites that are maintained by state agencies and
44 select one such referral service web site to be the state's primary source
45 of information concerning substance abuse treatment options. The

46 selected referral service web site shall contain information, updated on
47 a daily basis by the agency maintaining the web site, concerning
48 whether each treatment program is accepting new clients and shall
49 indicate which insurance plans, if any, are accepted by each treatment
50 program. The state agency maintaining the selected referral service
51 web site shall make an effort, by working with professional health care
52 provider associations, to include private behavioral health practices in
53 the referral service web site.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	17a-667
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Statement of Purpose:

To implement the recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee concerning the alcohol and drug policy council.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]